

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated September 29, 2003, the Examiner states that Claims 1-22 are pending and Claims 1-22 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 11, 12, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for lacking sufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "said mold-temperature adjusting device" in Claims 11 and 12. The Applicant has amended Claims 11 and 12 to provide sufficient antecedent basis.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Futoshi (JP 07-148751) in view of Summersgill et al. (US 5,985,084), Takahashi et al. (US 6,302,985), or Toide et al. (US 5,318,653). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection in view of the amended claims.

In the amendment to Claim 1, the resin-application step is carried out, while pouring the ionizing radiation curing type resin in a form of threads from one side of the forming mold to another side thereof.

Pouring the liquid resin in the form of thread from one side of the forming mold to the other side thereof makes it possible to prevent air from being entrapped in the lens formation grooves on a lens formation surface of the forming mold, as described in the specification, page 13, lines 5 to 7.

None of Futoshi, Summersgill, Takahashi and Toide disclose or suggest the resin-application step with the above-mentioned specific pouring step as claimed in the present application. Accordingly, any one of these references cannot provide the above-mentioned technical effect of the present invention.

The Applicant therefore considers that the subject matter of the present invention claimed in Claim 1 is patentable over Futoshi in view of Summersgill, Takahashi, or Toide.

The present Claim 2 depends from Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 2 is also considered patentable.

In the amendment to Claim 7, the apparatus of the present invention comprises a plurality of [nozzle] nozzles for applying ionizing radiation curing type resin in a form of liquid on an upper surface of a forming mold, while pouring the ionizing radiation curing type resin in a form of threads from one side of said forming mold to another side thereof, to form an uncured resin layer on the upper surface of said forming mold.

This claimed specific structure provides the same technical effects as the above-mentioned pouring step claimed in Claim 1. None of Futoshi, Summersgill, Takahashi and Toide disclose or suggest the claimed specific structure of the present invention. The Applicant therefore considers that the subject matter of the present invention claimed in Claim 7 also is patentable over Futoshi in view of Summersgill, Takahashi, or Toide.

Claim 8 depends from Claim 7, and is therefore also patentable.

In the Office Action, Claims 3-6 and 9-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Futoshi in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection in view of the amended claims as discussed above. Each of these rejected claims depend from amended Claim 1 or 7.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Makoto (JP 64-086102) in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection

Makoto neither discloses nor suggests the resin-application step with the specific pouring step recited in amended Claim 1. Summersgill, Takahashi and Toide neither disclose nor suggest the resin-application step with the specific pouring step. The Applicant thus considers that the subject matter of the present invention claimed in Claims 1 and 2 are patentable over Makoto in view of Summersgill, Takahashi, or Toide.

In the Office Action, Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Makoto in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al., and in further view of Futoshi. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection.

None of the cited references disclose or suggest the specific structure claimed in Claim 7, as discussed above. The, Applicant considers the rejection overcome.

In the Office Action, Claims 3-6 and 9-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Makoto in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al, or Toide et al., and in further view of Futoshi and Watanabe et al. (US 5,769,456). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection in view of the amended claims as discussed above. Each of the rejected claims depend from amended Claim 1 or 7.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Matsumoto (US 2002/0056929) in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al. Claims 1-22 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Matsumoto (US2002/0056930) in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al. The Applicant submits herewith a translation of the foreign priority papers in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55 to overcome these rejections.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-22 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 26, 27, 59, 60 and 61 of copending Application No. 10/001,145 (US2002/0056930) in view of Summersgill et al., Takahashi et al., or Toide et al. The Applicant herewith submits a terminal disclaimer to overcome this provisional rejection.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in better condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

December 10, 2003

Date

Brian W. Hameder

Attorney for Applicant

Brian W. Hameder

c/o Ladas & Parry

224 South Michigan Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60604

(312) 427-1300

Reg. No. 45613